# **ESRC Festival of Social Sciences 2020** University of Oxford Applicant Guidelines and Terms and Conditions

**Please read these guidelines before you apply for funding. Complete the** [**application form**](http://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/esrcfestival2020) **and email it to** [**esrciaa@socsci.ox.ac.uk**](mailto:esrciaa@socsci.ox.ac.uk) **by 12noon Friday 11 September**

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# Strategic aims and objectives of the Festival

## The main Festival aims are to:

* To encourage, support and create the opportunity for social science researchers, particularly early career researchers, to engage with non-academic audiences
* To provide a ‘safe’ place for researchers at all career stages to test out public engagement activities
* To engage with a range of policymakers promoting social science research and findings, to inform policymaking and to maximise the impact of research
* To engage the wider public to promote social science research and findings and an awareness and understanding of the contribution they make to the economy and wellbeing of society
* To engage young people and schools in social sciences

## Key messages:

* The social sciences make a vital contribution to the UK and its economy, by helping to address global societal challenges and improve lives.
* The events shaping our world – from Brexit and coronavirus to geopolitical tensions and civic protests – reveal how social science is more key to understanding the world than ever.
* Social sciences are essential to increasing social mobility, tackling poverty, improving the health and wellbeing of society, and to understanding the causes and nature of conflict, environmental change and securing our future.
* Social science has positive real-world impact with the power to aid growth, promote innovation and shape society

The ESRC are interested in events that link to their priority areas, but there is no compulsion to adapt your event to address these themes. For further definitions of what these mean, see the ESRC Delivery Plan 2019 (<https://www.ukri.org/files/about/dps/esrc-dp-2019/>). Priority areas include:

* Global Development, environment and society: covering major global challenges with an emphasis on international development and responding to climate change
* Changing Populations: understanding changes in UK and global populations, and the implications for public services and relationships between generations.
* Living with technology: implications of advances in science, technology and medicine for the way people live and work together
* Productivity, prosperity and growth: improving the UK’s overall productivity and earning power
* Next-generation public services: contributing towards the design and implementation of the next generation of public services.

# Guidance for applicants

Events must:

* be held during the ESRC Festival of Social Science **(7-15th November 2020)**
* fit with the aims and objectives of the Festival
* feature social science (ideally with a social scientist involved in the event)
* be free to attend
* not be aimed primarily at academic audiences

**Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all Festival of Social Sciences events will be digital-only**. These could be in any format, including:

* online film screenings
* online debates
* online seminars
* online workshops
* virtual exhibitions
* social media events
* other virtual activities

Applications are welcome from any department in the Social Sciences Division at University of Oxford and from anyone from other divisions who would identify as a social sciences researcher. Non social sciences researchers may also apply but must feature social science in their event. If you have any queries about your eligibility get in touch.

Past event holders have included:

* ESRC-funded grant holders, postgraduate students and those working in ESRC funded investments
* non ESRC-funded social scientists
* museums, science centres etc.

Applicants are welcome to apply for sponsorship for more than one event, although a separate application form must be submitted for each different event (iterations of the same event are welcome and do not need a separate form). Applicants must be resident in the UK.  
  
You are advised to look at:

* [Application form](http://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/esrcfestival2020)
* [Evaluation reports from previous Festivals](https://esrc.ukri.org/public-engagement/festival-of-social-science/previous-events/evaluation-of-previous-festivals/) (for ideas of events)
* Q&As with Oxford 2019 Festival organisers: [Dr Chico Camargo](https://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/internet-on-tap-q) and [Dr Maria Christodoulou](https://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/perceptions-of-ageing)
* [The ESRC Impact Toolkit](https://esrc.ukri.org/research/impact-toolkit/)
* [Top tips for holding an event](https://esrc.ukri.org/public-engagement/festival-of-social-science/event-organisers-guide/)

Applications will be judged against the following criteria:

* consistency with the Festival's strategic objectives and aims
* awareness of public concerns and topical relevancy
* targeting of specific audiences, particularly the public and young people
* an effort to reach groups outside the Greater London area
* innovative and interactive events
* the event must fall within the Festival week

For events targeted at young people, school or college students you **must** be able to demonstrate sufficient interest from the school, college or youth organisation at the time of application. Failure to provide confirmation of support from the organisation may delay your application or result in the withdrawal of an event.

# Costs

We have a small amount of funding available to support Festival of Social Sciences events. Though we are expecting all events to be in a digital format, we know that there might still be some direct costs involved.

**If you would like to discuss funding for event costs, please contact** [**esrciaa@socsci.ox.ac.uk**](mailto:esrciaa@socsci.ox.ac.uk) **when you submit your application with an outline of the cost type and amounts.**

* Costs must be non-FEC
* Staff costs cannot be included
* We are unable to fund goody bags or giveaways (for example pens and notepads)

**Please note any decision on funding by the review panel is final**.

# Further information

* [Frequently asked questions](https://esrc.ukri.org/public-engagement/festival-of-social-science/organise-an-event/festival-faqs/)

# Terms and conditions

By submitting my application, I agree to:

* display the ESRC Festival logo on all promotional materials, web pages and correspondence relating to the event, in compliance with the ESRC Festival [branding guidelines](https://esrc.ukri.org/research/impact-toolkit/websites/design-and-branding/)
* use the **#esrcfestival hashtag** when promoting my event on social media
* provide the university Festival Coordinator with event information by the required deadline (tbc for 2020, c. early July), so that this can be supplied to the ESRC. **Failure to do so may result in your event not being promoted in the printed and online programme by ESRC**
* accept that the information provided will be reviewed and may be re-written by a journalist to ensure my event is marketed to my target audience
* notify my university Festival Coordinator of **any changes as soon as they arise**
* provide ESRC Festival of Social Science evaluation forms (link to online form) to all those who attend the event (**forms used must be those provided by ESRC, and must not be edited**)
* return **all** **completed feedback forms** to the ESRC in their**original format** (no photo copies or scanned versions) after the festival (deadline tbc)
* complete the online organiser evaluation of my event (a link to this form will be provided at the start of the Festival) by the given deadline (tbc)
* display ESRC Festival branded posters at the event
* only **cancel my event** after discussion with my university Festival Coordinator

By submitting my application, I acknowledge that my event will:

* be **aimed at a non-academic audience** (events aimed at an academic audience are not eligible to be part of the Festival)
* be held during the ESRC Festival of Social Science (**7-15 November 2020**)
* fit with the aims and objectives of the Festival
* feature social science (with involvement of a social scientist)
* be **free to attend**.

# Getting support with your application

For researchers in the Social Sciences Division please contact:

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| Francesca Richards, Research Impact Facilitator  [francesca.richards@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:francesca.richards@socsci.ox.ac.uk)   * Archaeology * Anthropology * Global Area Studies * Geography and Environment * International Development | Samantha Harper, Research Impact Facilitator  [samantha.harper@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:samantha.harper@socsci.ox.ac.uk)   * Saïd Business School * Economics * Sociology * Social Policy and Intervention | Naomi Gibson  Senior Research Impact Facilitator  [naomi.gibson@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:naomi.gibson@socsci.ox.ac.uk)   * Politics and International Relations * Law * Internet Institute * Blavatnik School of Government |

For social sciences researchers in other parts of the University please contact Naomi Gibson ([naomi.gibson@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:naomi.gibson@socsci.ox.ac.uk) )

All applications should be submitted with the support of your department to [esrciaa@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:esrciaa@socsci.ox.ac.uk) by **Deadline 12noon Friday 11 September**.